MUSIC REVIEW

Opera singers pour out big sound in recital

By Derrick Henry
Staff Writer

A duo/recital is a curious way for an opera company to open its season. Especially when neither of the recitalists is singing in the staged operas to be presented on that season's itinerary.

Yet that is how the Atlanta Opera chose to inaugurate their new regime under artistic advisor William Fred Scott. Soprano Martina Arroyo and mezzo Mignon Dunn joined forces at Symphony Hall Thursday night in a program of operatic arias, spirituals, and Broadway show tunes.

Miss Arroyo and Miss Dunn have earned their reputation as *opera* singers, at the Met and practically every other major operatic stage around the world. An inherent problem exists at putting opera singers in a recital situation, even when the hall is as large as Symphony Hall, with its 1750-plus seats. Neither Miss Dunn nor Miss Arroyo made any attempt to scale their singing to recital dimensions. They poured out the volume as if they had a full orchestra to overpower rather than just their able piano accompanist Henry Venanzi.

And their physical gestures, too, assumed a broad rather than intimate manner. While Miss Arroyo at least maintains a certain restraint, Miss Dunn often tends toward the melodramatic. The divas even troubled to change outfits during intermission.

Some selections adapted better than others to this method of presentation. Worse was the opening trio of tidbits by Rossini, "sins of old age" overwhelmed by an attempt to turn them into mini-operatic scenes. Nor did the Broadway selections profit from such gravity of tone.

Both artists have been around for some time. Miss Arroyo made her formal debut in 1958, Miss Dunn in 1956. While both singers can still conjure forth some big-league sounds, age has begun to catch up with Miss Dunn in particular, a fact jokingly alluded to in the duet "Bosom Buddies" from "Mame". She is now 53, and sounds constricted, becoming more brittle and penetrating the higher and louder she gets.

MARTINA ARROYO: Performed at Symphony Hall Thursday night.

At times these limitations can be put to good dramatic effect, as in her portrayal of the covetous Amneris in Verdi's "Aida" (the duet "Fu la sorte dell'armi"). But Miss Dunn's vocal quality did not always seem appropriate to the material at hand. Her waspish, harsh-toned rendering of several spirituals contrasted poorly with Miss Arroyo's world-weary, rich-toned, and indubitably idiomatic efforts in the spiritual repertory.

Miss Arroyo's voice can still melt a listener with its tonal beauty: Her soft singing is ravishing in its warmth, and she can pour out startling torrents of volume. But there is not much in between, and her diction is not very clear.

In emotionally staightforward music, such as the aforementioned spirituals or "And This Is My Beloved," extracted from Borodin's Second String Quartet for the musical "Kismet," she can penetrate the heart. Yet in Thursday's context her operatic selections tended to sound mushy is Monday's context.

If there is a lesson to be learned from all this, it is: Not all opera singers are suited to the recital stage.

ALL SHOWS 2.50 BEFORE 6 PM

CHECK TIMES DAILY

PLITT SHOWCASE THEATRES

MALL CORNERS 6 — ACROSS FROM GWINNETT PLACE 476-8549
A VIEW TO A KILL (PG) 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00
ST. ELMO'S FIRE (R) 1:55, 4:00, 6:05, 8:10, 10:15
LIFEFORCE (R) 2:05, 4:05, 6:05, 8:05, 10:05
PALE RIDER (R) 12:20, 2:35, 5:05, 7:25, 9:45
PRIZZI'S HONOR (R) 12:15, 2:45, 5:10, 7:40, 10:10
BREWSTERS MILLIONS (PG) 1:15, 3:15, 5:15, 7:15, 9:15

PHIPPS PLAZA — 3500 PEACHTREE RD. 261-9333
D.A.R.Y.L. (PG) 1:30, 3:30, 5:30, 7:30, 9:45
PERFECT (R) 12:15, 2:45, 5:15, 7:45, 10:00
THE GOONIES (PG) 12:10, 2:40, 5:00, 7:10, 9:30

PROMENADE — HWY. 41, 1 MILE NORTH OF CUMBERLAND 953-2046
D.A.R.Y.L. (PG) 12:15, 2:15, 4:15, 7:15, 9:15
ST. ELMO'S FIRE (R) 12:30, 2:45, 4:45, 7:00, 9:30
PALE RIDER (R) 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00

SOUTHLAKE PLAZA — MORROW INDUSTRIAL BLVD. 968-1120
PERFECT (R) 12:45, 3:00, 5:15, 7:30, 9:45
ST. ELMO'S FIRE (R) 12:30, 2:45, 5:00, 7:15, 9:30
THE GOONIES (PG) 12:00, 2:15, 4:45, 7:00, 9:15

STONEMONT — 5241 MEMORIAL DRIVE 292-2242
SECRET ADMIRER (R) 2:00, 4:00, 6:00, 8:00, 10:00
RETURN TO OZ (PG) 1:45, 3:45, 5:45, 7:45, 9:45

MEMORIAL SQUARE — 5479 MEMORIAL DRIVE 292-2062
CLINT EASTWOOD AS PALE RIDER (R) 7:30, 10:00
LIFEFORCE (R) 7:45, 9:50
DESPERATELY SEEKING SUSAN (PG-13) 7:15, 9:30
ROB LOWE IN ST. ELMO'S FIRE (R) 7:30, 9:45

SUMMER VACATION MOVIE TICKETS AVAILABLE AT ALL PLITT BOX OFFICES

PLITT REDUCED ADMISSION TICKETS ACCEPTED

GENERAL CINEMA — ALL SHOWINGS BEFORE 6 P.M. $2.50 — CHECK SHOW TIMES DAILY

NORTHLAKE 2 — I-285 EXIT LAVISTA RD. W. (near SEARS AUTO) 934-7520
THE GOONIES Fri-Sun 12:15 2:30 5:00 7:20 9:50 Mon-Thu 2:30 5:00 7:20 9:50 (PG)
COCOON Fri-Sun 12:00 2:15 4:40 7:05 9:35 10:10 Mon-Thu 2:15 4:40 7:05 9:35 (PG 13)
PERFECT Fri-Sun 12:20 2:35 5:10 7:30 Mon-Thu 2:35 5:10 7:30 9:55 (R)

SOUTHLAKE 2 — I-75 SOUTH - HWY. 54 EXIT MORROW IND. BLVD. 961-8588
FLETCH Fri 2:05 4:05 6:05 8:05 10:05 Sat 2:05 4:05 6:05 10:05 Sun-Thu 2:05 4:05 6:05 8:05 10:05 (PG 13)
COCOON 2:15 4:45 7:15 9:45 (PG 13)
PALE RIDER Fri-Sat 2:00 4:30 7:00 9:30 11:45 Sun-Thu 2:00 4:30 7:00 9:30 (R)

GWINNETT PLACE — I-85 & PLEASANT HILL ROAD 476-0431
RETURN TO OZ 1:10 3:25 5:45 8:00 (PG)
RAMBO: FIRST BLOOD II 2:00 4:00 6:00 7:55 9:50 (R)
THE GOONIES 2:15 4:45 7:15 9:45 (PG)
COCOON 1:00 3:15 5:30 7:45 10:00 (PG-13)
FLETCH 1:30 3:30 5:30 7:30 9:30 (PG)
SECRET ADMIRER 1:15 3:20 5:15 7:25 9:35 (R)

AKERS MILL SQ. — near CUMBERLAND MALL HWY. 41 N. (S. of I-285) 955-1795
THE GOONIES 2:05 5:00 7:30 9:50 (PG)
PERFECT 2:15 4:45 7:20 9:55 (R)
PRIZZI'S HONOR 1:30 4:15 7:00 9:40 (R)
A VIEW TO A KILL 1:40 4:20 7:05 9:45 (PG)

PERIMETER MALL — 394-4120 I-285 EXIT ASHFORD-DUNWOODY RD. N.
ST. ELMO'S FIRE 12:45 3:00 5:20 7:45 10:00 (R)
FLETCH 1:40 3:45 6:00 8:10 10:10 (PG)
THE GOONIES 12:30 2:50 5:15 7:30 9:55 (PG 13)
COCOON 12:00 2:20 4:50 7:20 9:50 (PG 13)

SNEAK PREVIEW "BACK TO THE FUTURE" SOUTHLAKE MALL SAT. only 8:00 P.M.

96rock MIDNIGHT MOVIES every Friday & Saturday only $2.96
Akers Mill, Perimeter, Northlake, Southlake, Gwinnett
WES CRAVEN'S A Nightmare ON ELM STREET
STAR TREK III
At Akers, Perimeter & Gwinnett only
FAST TIMES/RIDGEMONT HIGH
Also at Akers, Perimeter, Gwinnett & Northlake
ROCKY HORROR PICTURE SHOW

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—Gene Shalit, TODAY, NBC-TV

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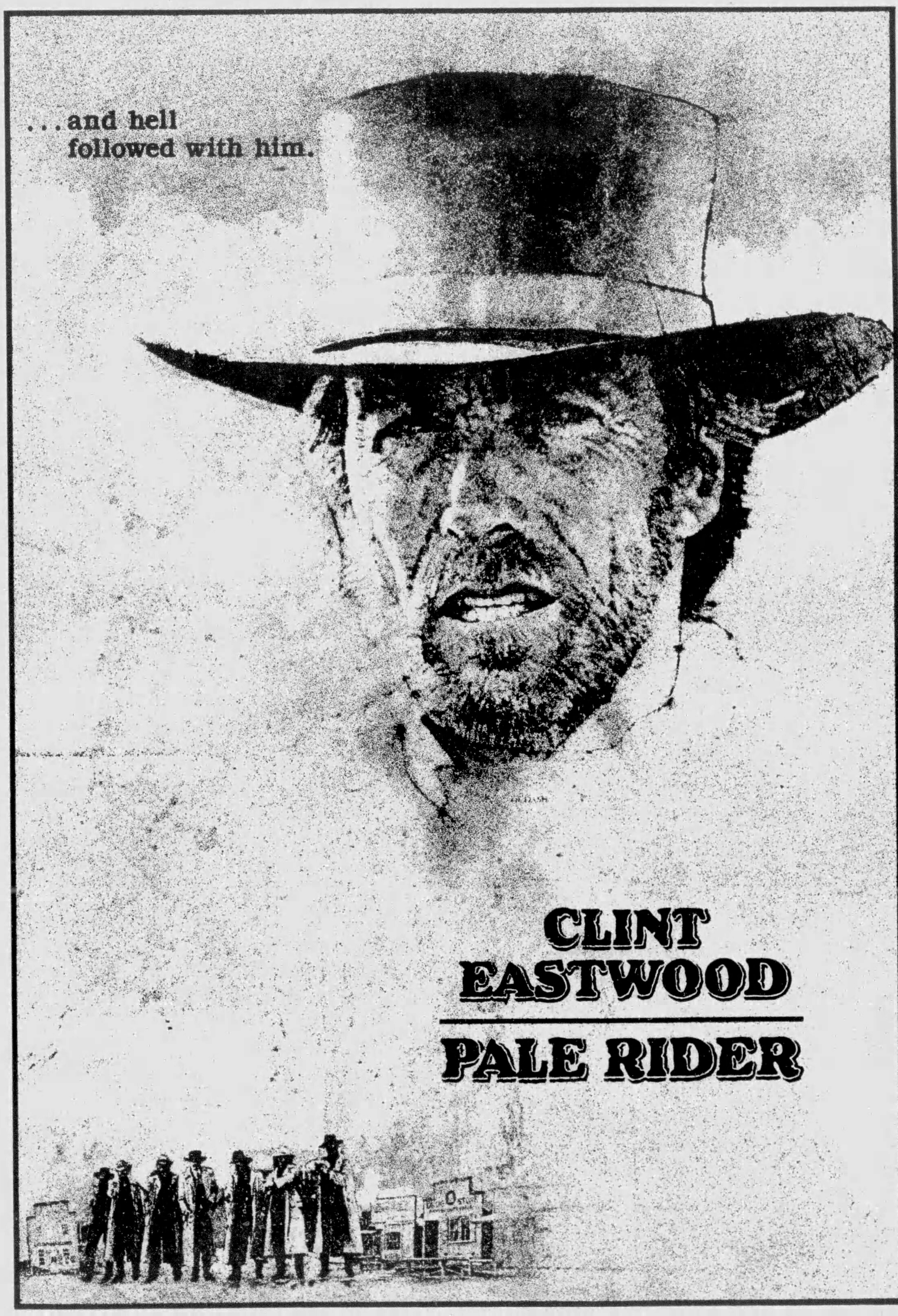
—Pat Collins - CBS Morning News, CBS-TV



CLINT EASTWOOD "PALE RIDER" also starring MICHAEL MORIARTY CARRIE SNODGRESS CHRISTOPHER PENN RICHARD DYSART SYDNEY PENNY RICHARD KIEL DOUG McGRATH JOHN RUSSELL executive producer FRITZ MANES music by LENNIE NIEHAUS associate producer DAVID VALDES written by MICHAEL BUTLER & DENNIS SHRYACK produced and directed by CLINT EASTWOOD

R RESTRICTED UNDER 17 REQUIRES ACCOMPANYING PARENT OR ADULT GUARDIAN

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PLITT PROMENADE — 2400 NORTH COBB PKWY. 953-2046 — 12:00 2:30 5:00 7:30 10:00
PLITT MALL CORNERS 6 — ACROSS FROM GWINNETT PLACE 476-8549 — 12:20 2:35 5:05 7:25 9:45
GENERAL CINEMA SOUTHLAKE 2 — I-75 AT HWY. 54 MORROW IND. BLVD. 961-8588 — 2:00 4:30 7:00 9:30 11:45
GEORGIA THEATRES COBB CENTER 4 — 2120 SOUTH COBB DR. 436-1238 — 12:00 2:30 5:00 7:30 10:00
AMC THEATRES NORTHLAKE FESTIVAL 8 — 4043 LAVISTA RD. 934-7153 — 12:00 2:30 5:00 7:30 9:55 12:00
AMC THEATRES TOWER PLACE 6 — PEACHTREE & PIEDMONT 233-2151 — 12:00 2:30 5:00 7:30 10:15
STOREY'S NATIONAL 6 — I-285 AT OLD NATIONAL HWY. 762-9636 — 2:10 4:30 7:10 9:30 11:50
MARIETTA MARBRO D.I. — AUSTELL ROAD 436-6444 — SHOW AT DUSK!
LEFONT PLAZA THEATRE — 1049 PONCE DE LEON AVE. 873-1939 — 4:55 7:25 9:45
GEORGIA THEATRES STARLIGHT D.I. — 2000 MORELAND AVE. SE. 627-5786 — 9:15 11:15
STOREY'S 12 OAKS TWIN — BUFORD HWY. AT CLAIRMONT 321-3601 — 2:10 4:30 7:10 9:30 11:50
PLITT MEMORIAL SQUARE — 5479 MEMORIAL DR. 292-2062 — 7:30 10:00
SEPTUM S HOLCOMB WOODS 6 — HOLCOMB BRIDGE RD.—ROSWELL 992-6717 — 12:45 3:00 5:15 7:40 10:10

BUFORD HWY. TWIN — ¼ NORTH OF I-285 451-1652
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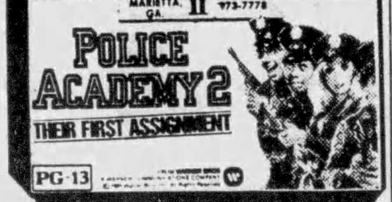

POLICE ACADEMY 2 THEIR FIRST ASSIGNMENT
PG-13

EASTERN FEDERAL THEATRES
ALL THEATRES ADMISSION $1.00

BELVEDERE 284-3604
BEN HILL 344-8667
$1.00 ALL TIMES "POLICE ACADEMY 2" (PG-13) 3:30 5:30 7:30 9:30
$1.00 ALL TIMES "CODE OF SILENCE" (R) 3:40 5:40 7:40 9:40

MIRACLE 435-3111
$1.00 ALL TIMES "GIRLS JUST WANT TO HAVE FUN" (PG) 3:20 5:20 7:20 9:20
$1.00 ALL TIMES "CODE OF SILENCE" (R) 3:40 5:40 7:40 9:40

NORTH SPRINGS 394-6823
$1.00 ALL TIMES "LOST IN AMERICA" (R) 3:25 5:25 7:25 9:25
$1.00 ALL TIMES "WITNESS" (R) 3:40 5:40 7:40 9:40

TOWN & COUNTRY MARIETTA 973-7778
$1.00 ALL TIMES "GIRLS JUST WANT TO HAVE FUN" (PG) 3:20 5:20 7:20 9:20
$1.00 ALL TIMES "CODE OF SILENCE" (R) 3:40 5:40 7:40 9:40
$1.00 ALL TIMES "POLICE ACADEMY 2" (PG-13) 3:30 5:30 7:30 9:30

SHOW TIMES FOR TODAY ONLY!

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$2 SHOWS STARTING BEFORE 6 PM AND ALL SHOWS TUESDAY EXCEPT GARDEN HILLS

LENOX SQUARE 233-0338
BEVERLY HILL COPS R 12-2-4-6-8-10
COCOON PG-13 12-2:30-4:50-7:40-10
BREWSTER'S MILLIONS PG 12:10-2:10-4:10-6:10-8:10-10:10
FLETCH PG 12:15-2:15-4:15-6:15-8:15-10:15
VIEW TO A KILL PG 1:15-4-7:15-9:40
LIFEFORCE R 12:30-2:30-4:30-6:30-8:30-10:20

GARDEN HILLS 266-2202
MY NEW PARTNER 3:30-5:30-7:45-9:45 R

CINEMAS 8 SHANNON 964-3691
SECRET ADMIRER R 3-5:05-7:15-9:10
LIFEFORCE R 2:05-4-6-8-10
COCOON PG-13 12:45-3-5:15-7:30-9:45
RETURN TO OZ PG 1:30-3:40-6-8:05-10:05
VIEW TO A KILL PG 2-4:30-7-9:30
BEVERLY HILLS COP R 2:40-4:55-7:10-9:25
FOOTLOOSE PG 2:45-5-7:25-9:35
WITNESS R 2:35-4:55-7:20-9:40

CINEMAS 8 SOUTHLAKE 968-3119
PIZZI'S HONOR R 2-4:30-7-9:30
RETURN TO OZ PG 1:25-3:40-6-8:05-10:05
BREWSTER'S MILLIONS PG 1:30-3:30-5:30-7:30-9:30
SECRET ADMIRER R 3-5-7-9
VIEW TO A KILL PG 1:50-4:20-6:50-9:20
RAMBO R 1:30-3:30-5:30-7:30-9:30
LIFEFORCE R 2:05-4-6-8-10
BEVERLY HILLS COP R 2:50-4:55-7-9:05

COBB CENTER 436-1238
FLETCH PG-13 12:30-2:45-5-7:15-9:30
PALE RIDER R 12-2:30-5-7:30-10
RETURN TO OZ PG 12:30-2:45-5-7:15-9:30
RAMBO R 12:45-3-4:45-7-9:15

GREEN'S CORNER 925-1376
RETURN TO OZ PG 1:15-3:15-5:15-7:15-9:15
LIFEFORCE R 2:15-4:15-6:15-8:15-10:15
ST. ELMO'S FIRE R 1:30-3:30-5:30-7:30-9:30
RAMBO R 1:45-3:45-5:45-7:45-9:45
FLETCH 2-4-6-8-10 PG

SOUTH DEKALB 241-6147
VIEW TO A KILL PG 2-4:30-7-9:30
BREWSTER'S MILLIONS PG 1:30-3:30-5:30-7:30-9:30
RAMBO R 1:30-3:30-5:30-7:45-9:45
LIFEFORCE R 1:15-3:15-5:15-7:15-9:15

GREENBRIAR 344-8290
LIFEFORCE R 2:30-4:15-6:05-7:55-9:40
RAMBO R 2:45-4:30-6:15-8-9:45

WESTGATE 344-8870
VIEW TO A KILL PG 2-4:30-7-9:30
SECRET ADMIRER R 3:15-5:15-7:15-9:15
NIGHTMARE/ELM ST. 3:30-5:30-7:30-9:30 R

BELMONT 436-6249
LIFEFORCE 5:15-7:15-9:15 R

STARLIGHT DI 627-5786
SECRET ADMIRER R 9:15-11:15
BREWSTER'S MILLIONS PG 9:15-11:15
RAMBO R 9:15-11:15
LIFEFORCE R 9:15-11:15
VIEW TO A KILL PG 9:15-11:15
PALE RIDER R 9:15-11:15

$1 ALL SEATS $1

PARKAIRE MALL 971-6133
LOST IN AMERICA R 7:15-9:15
PORKY'S REVENGE R 7:45-9:45

VILLAGE 938-5423
LOST IN AMERICA R 7:15-9:15
PORKY'S REVENGE R 7:30-9:30

MUSIC ZAP! LENOX & GRN'S CORNER
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